

(b) Penalties for illegal possession and wearing of service medals and apertenances.

§ 578.68 Badges and tabs; general.

(a) *Purpose.* The purpose of awarding badges is to provide for public recognition by tangible evidence of the attainment of a high degree of skill, proficiency, and excellence in tests and competition, as well as in the performance of duties. Awards of badges promote esprit de corps, and provide an incentive to greater effort, thus becoming instrumental in building and maintaining morale. Types of badges authorized to be awarded as hereinafter prescribed, are combat and special skill badges, marksmanship qualification badges, identification badges and tabs.

(b) *Recommendations and approval authority.* (1) Recommendations for awards of badges will be submitted by memorandum or DA Form 4187 through command channels to the commander authorized to make the award.

(2) Badges may be approved and awarded in the field only by the commanders authorized to award the respective badge.

(3) Award of badges to Active Army personnel which cannot be resolved by local commanders will be forwarded through command channels to HQ, USA HRC, (see address § 578.3(c)).

(c) *Posthumous awards.* When an individual who has qualified for a badge dies before the award is made, the badge may be presented to the next of kin.

(d) *Retroactive awards.* Retroactive awards of the Combat Infantryman Badge and the Combat Medical Badge may be made to fully qualified individuals. Such awards will not be made except where evidence of injustice is presented. Active duty soldiers will forward their applications through command channels to HQ, AHRC, (see address § 578.3(c)). Reserve Component soldiers should address their application to Commander, USA HRC—St. Louis, One Reserve Way, St. Louis, MO 63132-5200. Retirees and veterans should address their application to the NPRC (see § 578.16(a)(3) for address).

(e) *Announcement of awards.* Permanent awards of badges, except basic marksmanship qualification badges,

identification badges, and the Physical Fitness Badge, will be announced in Permanent Orders by commanders authorized to make the award or Permanent Orders of HQDA.

(f) *Presentation of awards.* Whenever practical, badges will be presented to military personnel in a formal ceremony. Presentations should be made as promptly as practical following announcement of awards, and when possible, in the presence of the troops with whom the recipients were serving at the time of the qualification.

(g) *Supply of badges.* (1) Badges listed below are issued by the DA.

- (i) Combat and special skill badges;
- (ii) Basic Marksmanship Designation Badges;
- (iii) Distinguished marksmanship designation badges;
- (iv) Excellence in competition badges;
- (v) Basic marksmanship qualification badges and bars;
- (vi) Army Staff Identification Badge;
- (vii) The Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Identification Badge (an item of organizational equipment);
- (viii) Army ROTC Nurse Cadet Program Identification Badge;
- (ix) Drill Sergeant Identification Badge;
- (x) U.S. Army Recruiter Identification Badge;
- (xi) Career Counselor Badge;
- (xii) Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Identification Badge;
- (xiii) U.S. Army Reserve Recruiter Identification Badge.

(2) Items not issued or sold by the DA:

- (i) Identification badges, except as provided in paragraph (g)(1) of this section;
- (ii) Lapel buttons for badges;
- (iii) Certificates for badges;
- (iv) Foreign badges;
- (v) Miniature Combat Infantryman, Expert Infantryman, Combat Medical, Expert Field Medical, and Aviation badges;
- (vi) Dress miniature badges. (Miniatures may be purchased from dealers in military insignia.)

(h) *Requisition.* Combat and special skill badges, basic marksmanship qualification badges, and authorized bars,

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may be requisitioned by commanders through normal channels. Requisitions will contain a statement that issue is to be made to authorized personnel. Commanders authorized to make the award may requisition bulk delivery of badges to meet needs for 60 days. Care should be taken that excessive stocks are not requisitioned. Initial issue or replacement for a badge lost, destroyed, or rendered unfit for use without fault or neglect on the part of the person to whom it was awarded, will be made upon application, without charge to military personnel on active duty and at stock fund standard price to all others.

(i) *Character of service.* A badge will not be awarded to any person who, subsequent to qualification therefore, has been dismissed, dishonorably discharged, or convicted of desertion by court-martial.

(j) *Special guidance.* (1) Effective September 30, 1986, local established special skill badges are no longer authorized for wear. Authority for major commanders to approve local badges is rescinded.

(2) The wear of badges issued by other Services is governed by AR 670-1. Those cases that cannot be resolved should be forwarded to Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1, ATTN: DAPE-HR-S, 300 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-0300.

(3) Authority must be obtained from HQ, USA HRC (AHRC-PDO-PA) before

wearing on the Army uniform badges awarded by other U.S. Services and the Director of Civilian Marksmanship.

(k) *To whom awarded.* (1) The Combat Infantryman Badge may be awarded only to members of the U.S. Army.

(2) The Combat Medical Badge may be awarded only to members of the U.S. Army, Navy, or Air Force.

(3) Awards of U.S. Army badges to foreign military personnel will be made only with the prior consent of his or her Government and upon completion of the full requirements established for each badge. Foreign military personnel may also qualify for Army badges while attending U.S. Army service schools or while participating in combined or joint operations.

(4) All other special skill badges may be earned by U.S. military personnel who qualify while performing honorable active duty or Reserve service in an active status or while formally assigned or attached to the U.S. Army.

(5) In certain cases, civilian personnel may be awarded special skill badges provided specific criteria are met. Requests or recommendations for award of special skill badges to civilians should be directed to designated approval authorities or Commander, USA HRC (see § 578.3 (c) for address).

(6) Table 9 below lists the U.S. Army combat and special skill badges authorized and who is authorized to be awarded each badge.

TABLE 9.—U.S. ARMY BADGES AND TABS

Order of precedence may be awarded to:	Members of other services	Department of the army civilians	Foreign military personnel
Combat Infantryman Badge	YES	NO	YES
Combat Medical Badge	YES	NO	NO
Combat Action Badge	YES	NO	YES
Expert Infantryman Badge	NO	NO	NO
Expert Field Medical Badge	YES	YES	YES
Parachutist Badges	YES	YES	YES
Parachute Rigger Badge	YES	YES	YES
Military Free-Fall Parachutist Badge.	NO	NO	NO
Army Aviator Badge	YES	YES	YES
Astronaut Device	YES	YES	YES
Flight Surgeon Badge	YES	YES	YES
Divers Badges	YES	YES	YES
Special Operations Diver Badge.	YES	NO	NO
Explosive Ordnance Disposal Badges.	YES	YES	YES
Pathfinder Badge	YES	YES	YES
Air Assault Badge	YES	YES	YES
Aviation Badge	YES	YES	YES
Driver & Mechanic Badge	YES	YES	YES
Ranger Tab	YES	YES	YES

TABLE 9.—U.S. ARMY BADGES AND TABS—Continued

Order of precedence may be awarded to:	Members of other services	Department of the army civilians	Foreign military personnel
Special Forces Tab	YES	YES	YES
Sapper Tab	YES	YES	YES

Notes:

1. Badges authorized to foreign military personnel will be made only after obtaining prior consent from his or her Government and after completion of the full requirements established for each badge.
2. DA civilians must complete full requirements for the respective badge before it is awarded.

§ 578.69 Combat Infantryman Badge.

(a) *Specific eligibility requirements.* There are basically three requirements for award of the Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB):

(1) The Soldier must be an infantryman satisfactorily performing infantry duties.

(2) Must be assigned to an infantry unit during such time as the unit is engaged in active ground combat.

(3) Must actively participate in such ground combat. (Campaign or battle credit alone is not sufficient for award of the CIB.)

(b) The specific eligibility criteria for the CIB requires that:

(1) A Soldier must be an Army infantry or special forces officer (SSI 11 or 18) in the grade of colonel or below, or an Army enlisted Soldier or warrant officer with an infantry or Special Forces Military Occupational Specialties (MOS), who, subsequent to December 6, 1941, has satisfactorily performed duty while assigned or attached as a member of an infantry, ranger or special forces unit of brigade, regimental, or smaller size during any period such unit was engaged in active ground combat. Eligibility for Special Forces personnel in MOS 18B, 18E, 18F, and 18Z (less Special Forces medical sergeant) accrues from December 20, 1989. Retroactive awards of the CIB to Special Forces personnel are not authorized prior to December 20, 1989.

(2) A recipient must be personally present and under hostile fire while serving in an assigned infantry or Special Forces primary duty, in a unit actively engaged in ground combat with the enemy. The unit in question can be of any size smaller than brigade. For example, personnel possessing an infantry MOS in a rifle squad of a cavalry platoon in a cavalry troop would be eligible for award of the CIB. Battle

or campaign participation credit alone is not sufficient; the unit must have been in active ground combat with the enemy during the period.

(3) Personnel with other than an infantry or Special Forces MOS are not eligible, regardless of the circumstances. The infantry or Special Forces SSI or MOS does not necessarily have to be the Soldier's primary specialty, as long as the Soldier has been properly trained in infantry or Special Forces tactics, possesses the appropriate skill code, and is serving in that specialty when engaged in active ground combat as described above. Commanders are not authorized to make any exceptions to this policy.

(4) Awards will not be made to general officers or to members of headquarters companies of units larger in size than brigade.

(5) On or after September 18, 2001, the following rules apply:

(i) A Soldier must be an Army infantry or special forces (SSI 11 or 18) in the grade of colonel or below, or an Army enlisted Soldier or warrant officer with an infantry or special forces MOS, who has satisfactorily performed duty while assigned or attached as a member of an infantry, ranger or special forces unit of brigade, regimental, or smaller size during any period such unit was engaged in active ground combat, to close with and destroy the enemy with direct fire.

(ii) A Soldier must be personally present and under fire while serving in an assigned infantry or Special Forces primary duty, in a unit engaged in active ground combat, to close with and destroy the enemy with direct fire.

(iii) Soldiers possessing MOS of 18D (Special Forces Medical Sergeant) who satisfactorily perform special forces duties while assigned or attached to a